

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) The tube of claim 78, wherein said sewing ring is substantially circular and is angled rearward, a tip of said sewing ring extending rearward of an inward end of said notch.
2. (Withdrawn) The tube of claim 66, wherein said distal end of said side arm has a tapered edge.
3. (Withdrawn) The tube of claim 2, wherein said distal end of said side arm includes a lip projecting outward from an inward end of said tapered edge to prevent disjoining of the outflow tube from said side arm.
4. (Withdrawn) The tube of claim 66, wherein said distal end of said side arm has a smaller outer diameter than a remaining portion of said side arm such that said distal end is positionable directly within the outflow tube.
5. (Currently Amended) The tube of claim 78, further comprising a bowel sheath having a portion extendable to cover an area of attachment of the bowel to said body, said bowel sheath being arranged around said tubular body and rearward of said sewing ring, said bowel sheath having a first position in which said sewing ring is exposed to enable the bowel to be attached to said sewing ring and a second position in which said bowel sheath is extended over said front end of said tubular body and overlies said sewing ring.
6. (Previously Presented) The tube of claim 5, wherein said body includes a ridge

extending outward from an outer surface, said ridge being arranged to retain said bowel sheath.

7. (Previously Presented) The tube of claim 6, wherein said ridge is circumferential, extending outward from an outer, circumferential surface of said body.

8. (Previously Presented) The tube of claim 5, wherein said bowel sheath is made of molded latex or silicone.

9. (Withdrawn) The tube of claim 5, wherein said bowel sheath and said sewing ring are integral with one another.

10. (Previously Presented) The tube of claim 78, wherein said body is formed from an injection molding process.

11. (Previously Presented) The tube of claim 78, wherein said body is transparent.

12. (Previously Presented) The tube of claim 78, wherein said distal end portion of said body includes at least one thread for mating with a screw cap or seal.

13. (Previously Presented) The tube of claim 78, wherein said body includes at least one circumferential triangular lip arranged at said proximal end of said tubular portion.

14. (Previously Presented) The tube of claim 13, wherein said at least one triangular lip has a proximal surface angled forward to facilitate insertion of said tube into the bowel.

15. (Previously Presented) The tube of claim 14, wherein said at least one

triangular lip further includes a distal surface substantially perpendicular to an outer circumferential surface of said body to prevent the secured bowel from slipping off of said body.

16. (Previously Presented) The tube of claim 13, wherein said sewing ring is arranged rearward of said at least one triangular lip.

17. (Previously Presented) The tube of claim 78, wherein said sewing ring is arranged proximate said distal portion of said body.

18-39. (Canceled)

40. (Previously Presented) The tube of claim 13, wherein said body has a side arm extending from a side thereof and said at least one triangular lip has planar surfaces.

41. (Previously Presented) The tube of claim 40, wherein each of said at least one triangular lip has a proximal surface angled forward to facilitate insertion of said tube into the bowel.

42. (Previously Presented) The tube of claim 41, wherein each of said at least one triangular lip further includes a distal surface substantially perpendicular to an outer circumferential surface of said body to prevent the secured bowel from slipping off of said body.

43. (Canceled)

44. (Previously Presented) The tube of claim 40, wherein said at least one triangular lip comprises a plurality of triangular lips.

45-65. (Canceled)

66. (Previously Presented) The tube of claim 78, wherein said body includes a side arm extending from a side thereof, said side arm being adapted to mate with an outflow tube at a distal end.

67. (Previously Presented) The tube of claim 5, wherein said portion of said bowel sheath is rolled and is adapted to be unrolled over and to cover the area of attachment of the bowel to said body.

68. (Previously Presented) The tube of claim 78, wherein said sewing ring is monolithically formed with said body.

69-77. (Canceled)

78. (Previously Presented) A tube for attaching to bowel, comprising:
a tubular body having a front end adapted to be inserted into the bowel; and
a sewing ring arranged in connection with said tubular body, including an undercut rear surface defining a circumferentially extending notch, said sewing ring having a portion which projects rearward and outward away from said body, said notch being defined partly by said rearwardly and outwardly extending portion such that a rearward edge of said sewing ring extends rearward of a forward end of said notch,

whereby the bowel is attachable to said sewing ring by passing a filament through the bowel and said sewing ring .

79. (Canceled)

80. (Withdrawn) The tube of claim 78, wherein the bowel is attachable to said sewing ring by clamping the bowel to said sewing ring by means of a surgical clamp with part of the surgical clamp being insertable into said notch and therefore under said rearward edge.

81. (Previously Presented) The tube of claim 78, wherein the bowel is attachable to said sewing ring by passing a filament through the bowel and said sewing ring while the bowel is clamped to said sewing ring.

82. (Withdrawn) The tube of claim 78, wherein said sewing ring has a curved portion alongside and in contact with an outer surface of said body, said projecting portion of said sewing ring projecting rearward and outward from said curved portion, said notch being defined between said projecting portion and said curved portion of said sewing ring.

83. (Withdrawn) The tube of claim 82, wherein said curved portion of said sewing ring is annular.

84. (Withdrawn) The tube of claim 82, wherein said curved portion extends forward and rearward of said projecting portion.

85. (Previously Presented) The tube of claim 78, wherein said sewing ring is arranged around the circumference of said body.

86. (Previously Presented) The tube of claim 78, wherein said body has a proximal end adapted to be inserted into the bowel and a distal end, said projecting portion of said sewing ring projecting toward said distal end.

87. (Previously Presented) The tube of claim 78, wherein said notch is defined by said sewing ring such that said sewing ring and said notch are fixed relative to one another.

88. (Previously Presented) The tube of claim 78, wherein said sewing ring is monolithic.

89. (Currently Amended) The tube of claim 78, further comprising a side arm extending from a side of said body, said body having ~~a proximal end adapted to be inserted into the bowel and~~ a distal end portion, said side arm being adapted to mate with an outflow tube at a distal end, said sewing ring being arranged proximate said distal portion of said body for securing said body within an open end of the severed bowel.

90. (Previously Presented) The tube of claim 89, wherein said sewing ring is part of an unitary attachment device for attaching an edge of the bowel to said body, said attachment device further comprising a tie seat for supporting a tie used to tie the bowel around said body.

91. (Currently Amended) The tube of claim 90, wherein said unitary attachment device further comprises a rolled bowel sheath adapted to roll over and cover the area of attachment of the bowel to said body, said bowel sheath being arranged around said body and rearward of said sewing ring, said bowel sheath having a first position in which said sewing ring is exposed to enable the bowel to be attached to said sewing ring and a second position in which said bowel sheath is unrolled and extended over said front end of said tubular body and overlies said sewing ring.

92. (Currently Amended) The tube of claim 90, wherein said body includes a ridge extending outward from an outer surface of said body, further comprising a rolled bowel sheath separate from said unitary attachment device, said ridge being arranged to retain said bowel sheath,

said unitary attachment device being arranged over an unrolled portion of said bowel sheath to thereby secure said bowel sheath to said body, said bowel sheath being arranged around said body and rearward of said sewing ring, said bowel sheath having a first position in which said sewing ring is exposed to enable the bowel to be attached to said sewing ring and a second position in which said bowel sheath is unrolled and extended over said front end of said tubular body and overlies said sewing ring.

93. (Previously Presented) The tube of claim 92, wherein said ridge is circumferential, extending outward from an outer, circumferential surface of said body.

94. (Previously Presented) The tube of claim 89, wherein said sewing ring is made of a soft, elastic, pliable plastic and is separate from said body.

95. (Previously Presented) The tube of claim 89, wherein said sewing ring is monolithic with said body.